## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal al Application No PCT/IB2004/051269

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G06F13/36 G06F G06F15/167 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G06F Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° US 5 935 232 A (LAMBRECHT ET AL) 1,2,6-8X 10 August 1999 (1999-08-10) column 1, line 53 - column 2, line 36 column 4, line 3 - line 60 column 8, line 35 - column 9, line 55 figures 2.6 US 5 734 843 A (GEPHARDT ET AL) 1,6,8 X 31 March 1998 (1998-03-31) column 1, line 29 - column 3, line 24 column 4, line 15 - line 47 figures 3,7,8 US 5 799 207 A (WANG ET AL) 3,4 Α 25 August 1998 (1998-08-25) column 7, line 50 - column 9, line 9 figures 4,12,13 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. ° Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed Invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of malling of the international search report 3 December 2004 13/12/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, McDonagh, F Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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